tocket No.: MUH-12686

hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Date: November 3, 2003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

10/609.453

Applicant

Recai Sezi et al.

Filed Art Unit

June 27, 2003

Examiner

to be assigned to be assigned

Docket No.

MUH-12686

Customer No. :

24131

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 6,235,436 B1 (Hirano et al.), dated May 22, 2001;

European Patent Application EP 0 997 488 A1 (Tada et al.), dated May 3, 2000;

European Search Report dated October 14, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) the undersigned herewith states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned above is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the applicant. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are submitted for any application filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

For Applicants

Mark P. Weichselbaum Reg. No. 43,248

Date: November 3, 2003

Lerner And Greenberg, P.A. Post Office Box 2480 Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

Tel: (954) 925-1100 Fax: (954) 925-1101

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Sheet 1 of 1 FORM PTO-1449 (SUBSTITUTE) Attorney Docket No.: Applic. No. MUH-12686 10/609,453 S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Applicant Recai Sezi et al. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Filing Date Group Art Unit (37 CFR 1.98(b)) June 27, 2003 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER** SUB FILING **INITIALS** PATENT NO. DATE **PATENTEE** CLASS CLASS DATE Α 6,235,436 B1 05/22/01 Hirano et al. В С D Ε F G Н FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT SUB TRANSL. DOCUMENT NO. COUNTRY DATE CLASS CLASS YES I NO J 0 997 488 A1 05/03/00 Europe Х Κ L М Ν OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) O Р

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

**EXAMINER**